

to their country and then come back if one of the members is here legally with cards. It just doesn't make any sense. We need to be mindful of the dignity of each person in our country. And I know we can achieve that goal—good homeland security, better border control—and at the same time treating people with respect who are here in our land.

I also very much appreciate the bridge that our Asian Pacific community provides America to an incredibly important part of the world. And those are the nations of the Pacific. I spent some time there, and I gave a speech in China and Japan and South Korea where I said, "This is going to be the Pacific century." And I believe that. We are a Pacific nation, America. We've got a lot of incredibly important ties with China and Japan, Korea, the Philippines; all the nations represented in this room are an incredibly important part of our future.

We've got to work on trade issues, issues that open up trade between our respective nations, so that we're able to better exchange goods and services. That's to the benefit of not only workers here in America, of course; it's also to the benefit of workers in countries with whom we trade. We've got to continue dialog; we've got to make sure that we work closely together to promote peace, to fight off this scourge called terror.

And the Asian Pacific Americans of our country make those ties incredibly important. Not only do you help Americans understand the cultures in the countries, you, yourself, by your presence, export American values so that those countries understand us better.

And so it's my honor to welcome you all to this magnificent house, to welcome your contributions to the greatest land on the face of the Earth, to tell you how proud I am to be the President of a diverse nation in which people make contributions, all kinds of fantastic contributions, to let you know that as we fight, we do so with peace in our mind and that we do so to make the world a better place here at home.

I often say that if you want to join in the war against terror, do some good. If you want to fight evil, love your neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself. That's a universal call. That's a call that is exhibited in neighborhoods all throughout America. See, the

great strength of our country really isn't in the halls of government, Senator and Congressmen; it's in the hearts and souls of our citizens. That's what makes our country unique and strong and vibrant, is the great citizens of America.

And it's my honor to welcome such citizens to the White House. May God bless you all. And may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:23 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Labor Secretary Elaine Chao; Commerce Secretary Norman Y. Mineta; and television personality Lisa Ling.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

May 12

In the afternoon, the President returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC.

May 13

In the morning, the President had intelligence briefings. He then traveled to Chicago, IL, where he met with Jerry and Adrienne Welenc, who have been foster parents to over 90 children and provide support to other foster parents. In the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

May 14

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings. Later, in an Oval Office ceremony, he signed the Hematological Cancer Research and Investment Education Act of 2002.

In the afternoon, he met in the Diplomatic Room at the White House with the Sunshine Kids, a group of children with cancer who were visiting Washington, DC.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals to represent the

United States at the inauguration of President Xanana Gusmao of East Timor on May 22: former President Bill Clinton, who will lead the delegation; Richard Holbrooke; James Kelly; Karen Brooks; Shari Villarosa; and Brig. Gen. John G. Castellaw, USMC.

The President announced his intention to nominate John William Blaney to be Ambassador to Liberia.

May 15

In the morning, the President had a breakfast meeting with Speaker of the House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, and House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt to discuss the congressional agenda. He then had CIA and FBI briefings. Later in the morning, he met with members of the United Jewish Communities to discuss the proposed "Charity Aid, Recovery, and Empowerment Act of 2002." He then met with the House Republican Conference at the Capitol, to discuss defense and domestic issues.

Also in the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee of India to express his condolences for the victims of the May 14 terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir.

May 16

In the morning, the President had intelligence briefings. In the afternoon, he met with the Senate Republican Conference at the Capitol, to discuss the upcoming congressional agenda.

The President declared a major disaster in New York and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by an earthquake on April 20.

May 17

In the morning, the President met with Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek of Slovenia to discuss bilateral issues.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Camp David, MD.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted May 13

James E. Boasberg,
of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years, vice Gregory E. Mize, retired.

Gene B. Christy,
of Texas, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Brunei Darussalam.

Douglas L. Flory,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, for a term expiring October 13, 2006, vice Michael V. Dunn.

Phyllis C. Hunter,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board for a term of 2 years (new position).

Kristie A. Kenny,
of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Ecuador.

Susanne T. Mitchell,
of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board, vice Beth Susan Slavet.

Barbara Calandra Moore,
of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Nicaragua.